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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ginger Dreger.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 3. (Twice amended) An isolated nucleic acid, comprising:

a nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence for mature AL-2l of [in] SEQ ID NO:2,

a nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence for mature AL-2s of [in] SEQ ID NO:4, or

a nucleotide sequence encoding the extracellular domain of AL-2 as set forth by amino acids 27-219 of [in] SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 7. (Twice amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 3, wherein the AL-2 extracellular domain as set forth by amino acids 27-219 of SEQ ID NO:2 is [joined] fused to an immunoglobulin amino acid sequence.

Canceled claim 8.

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C³
Claim 13. (Twice amended) The expression vector of claim 12, wherein the nucleic acid comprises:

- a nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO:1 that encodes mature AL-2I,
- a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 that encodes mature AL-2s, or
- a nucleic acid sequence of nucleotides 322-900 of SEQ ID NO:1 that encodes AL-2 extracellular domain.

C⁴
Claim 15. (Twice amended). The host cell of claim 14, wherein the vector comprises:

- a nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO:1 that encodes mature AL-2I,
- a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 that encodes mature AL-2s, or
- a nucleic acid sequence of nucleotides 322-900 of SEQ ID NO:1 that encodes AL-2 extracellular domain.

C⁵
Claim 17. (Twice amended) A process which comprises transforming a host cell with an expression vector of claim 12 capable, in the host cell transformed with the vector, of expression the nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence for mature AL-2I, mature AL-2s or AL-2 extracellular domain, and culturing the transformed host cells under conditions such that the AL-2 polypeptide is synthesized.

C⁶
Claim 40. (Once amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 3, comprising:

- a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 that encodes mature AL-2I,
- a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 that encodes mature AL-2s, or

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C6
a nucleic acid sequence ~~of nucleotides 322-900~~ of SEQ ID NO:1 that encodes AL₂ extracellular domain.

Added the following new claims.

C7
--Claim 41. The isolated nucleic acid of claim 3, wherein the AL-2l amino acid sequence is fused to an immunoglobulin amino acid sequence.

Claim 42. The isolated nucleic acid of claim 3, wherein the AL-2s amino acid sequence is fused to an immunoglobulin amino acid sequence.--

2. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this general application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Papers relating to this application may be submitted to Technology Center 1600, Group 1640 by facsimile transmission. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). Should applicant wish to FAX a response, the current FAX number for Group 1604 is (703) 308-4242.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia A. Duffy, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (703) 305-7555. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:30 AM to 3:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula Hutzell, can be reached at (703) 308-4310.

Patricia A. Duffy, Ph.D.
April 7, 1998

Patricia A. Duffy
Patricia A. Duffy, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
Group 1640